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PTO/SB/21 (03-03)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number

10/509,880

Filing Date

October 4, 2004

First Named Inventor

HARALD SCHROTT et al

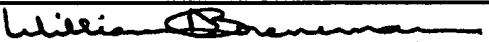
Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div> | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual | William D. Breneman, Esq. BRENEMAN & GEORGES |
| Signature |  |
| Date | January 4, 2005 |

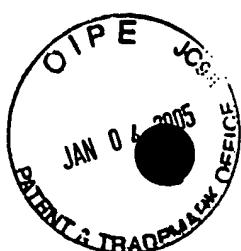
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

HARALD SCHROTT,
ANDREAS WAWRLA and
KLAUS ZUCHOLL

U.S. Serial No.: 10/509,880

Group Art Unit:

Filed: October 4, 2004

Examiner:

For: WATER FILTER CARTRIDGE COMPRISING AN EXCHANGEABLE TESTING
UNIT THAT CONTAINS A CONDUCTANCE SENSOR

January 4, 2005

* * * * *

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 56 of the Rules of Practice in Patent and Trademark Cases (37 CFR § 1.56) Applicants submit copies of a Notice dated July 13, 2004 referring to the mailing of the International Preliminary Search Report, a Notice dated September 2, 2003 regarding the transmittal of the International Preliminary Search Report appending the International Preliminary Search Report as well as references uncovered; and a search report by the German Patent Office dated January 30, 2003 of prior art searched in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Great Britain, USA, Japan (abstracts), former USSR (abstracts), European Patent Office and WIPO. Copies of the abstracts of

U.S. Serial No.: 10/509,880
HARALD SCHROTT,
ANDREAS WAWRLA and
KLAUS ZUCHOLL

these references in English are attached as Exhibit A.

The cited references including search report(s) and literature are included on Form PTO-1449 appended hereto as Exhibit B and are as follows:

Internat. References

U.S. Patent Application Publication US 2002/0030020 A1
(Jack Moorehead et al.)
March 14, 2002

U.S. Patent No. 4,937,557 (Mario A. Tucci et al)
June 26, 1990

U.S. Patent No. 6,264,830 B1 (George Plester et al)
July 24, 2001

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Electronics Co. Lim.)
October 22, 1997

U.S. Patent No. 6,024,867 (Michael C. Parise)
February 15, 2000

U.S. Patent No. 5,328,597 (Norton K. Boldt, Jr. et al.)
July 12, 1994

German References

DE 196 08 372 A1 (Klaus Zucholl)
September 11, 1997

DE 101 30 380 A1 (Robert Bosch)
January 2, 2003

DE 38 05 249 A1 (Pall Luftfahrttechnik APME Deutschld.)
August 31, 1989

DE 295 06 439 U1 (Sulzer-Escher Wyss GmbH)
August 3, 1995

U.S. Serial No.: 10/509,880
HARALD SCHROTT,
ANDREAS WAWRLA and
KLAUS ZUCHOLL

Abstracts in English of the cited German references have been obtained where available and are included herewith as Exhibit A. These references are relevant in view of the fact they were uncovered and cited in the corresponding foreign priority application and their relevancy is described in the Search Report(s).

Although no fee is believed required for the Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment which may be required by this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 02-3702.

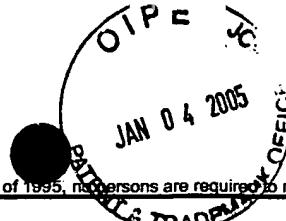
A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/509,880 |
| Filing Date | October 4, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | SCHROTT, Harald et a |
| Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | GB 2 312 176 | 10-22-1997 | Samsung Electro | | |
| | | DE 196 08 372 A1 | 09-11-1997 | Klaus Zucholl | | |
| | | DE 101 30 380 A1 | 01-02-2003 | Robert Bosch | | |
| | | DE 38 05 249 A1 | 08-31-1989 | Pall Luftfahrt | | |
| | | DE 295 06 439 U1 | 08-03-1995 | Sulzer-Escher W | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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